

THE
Patent Sofa,

LATELY INVENTED

By Mr. SAMUEL JAMES, SURGEON,

Hoddesdon, Herts.

TO THE PUBLIC.

PROFESSIONAL Men have long regretted the want of a Machine to assist the Practitioner in the proper treatment of afflicted persons, who, from Fractures or other causes, may be confined to their beds, without any power of locomotion, or any substitute for it.

Among the numerous improvements of the present age, the Public will be highly gratified to learn that this useful desideratum has been at length accomplished by Mr. S. JAMES, Surgeon, of Hoddesdon, Herts; and, after numerous trials, this is found to be the most complete Machine ever invented for the relief of mankind; combining the ease of a bed with a mechanical substitute for locomotion.

The subject appears to have long engaged the humane attention of Mr. JAMES. Seventeen years since, an Account of a Machine invented by this gentleman for Fractures of the Legs and Thighs, appeared in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, which is still highly approved of by the Faculty in general.

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Attestations to the great utility of the present Invention have been given by the highest Authorities in Medicine and Surgery. It is therefore unnecessary to subjoin any further Recommendations than are conveyed in the Copies of the following Letters, which form but a small part of the flattering Testimonials with which the Inventor has been honoured.

"DEAR SIR,

Lincoln's Inn Fields, July 31, 1813.

"I HAVE carefully inspected the drawing of the Sofa, which you have invented for patients who are incapable of moving by their own exertions.

"It appears to me that this invention is very superior to any other that I am acquainted with, for such purposes. The simplicity of its construction, and the ease with which the body and limbs can be moved into the most favourable positions, must greatly contribute to the comfort of the patient.

"I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

*"To Samuel James, Esq.
Hoddesdon, Herts.*

HENRY CLINE."

"Russel Square, Nov. 15, 1813.

"I HAVE attentively examined the Sofa so admirably contrived, and so ingeniously constructed; the discovery of Mr. SAMUEL JAMES, Surgeon, at Hoddesdon.

"It facilitates the motion of the whole body, or any distinct part of it, without any exertion on the side of the invalid, and without any painful effort; it is therefore calculated to afford the greatest relief in cases of gout or rheumatism, in fractures, and all other external injuries where surgical aid is necessary. It keeps the diseased parts in the most tranquil and relaxed situation: it preserves them in a steady and uniform position, so that external injury is avoided. It has, likewise, the advantage of being so commodious and accommodating, as to assume the appearance of an elegant sofa.

(Signed) W^M. SAUNDERS, M.D."

"MY DEAR SIR,

Aldermanbury, Nov. 18, 1813.

"IT must be known to every person engaged in the management of the sick, that the instances are innumerable in which it is of the greatest moment, as in severe affections of the chest, compound fractures, &c. that the patient should be furnished with the means of having his body easily placed, and maintained in that position which the nature of his illness requires: and from the drawings which you did me the favour to shew me when you were last in town, I am of opinion that a Couch or Sofa made on the construction you propose, is well calculated to answer the intended purpose; and will be the more generally useful, from the facility with which its machinery can be transferred to a common bed or sofa.

"I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

*"To Samuel James, Esq.
Surgeon, Hoddesdon, Herts.*

WILLIAM BABINGTON."

"MY DEAR SIR,

New Broad Street, Nov. 26, 1813.

"THE Sofa Bed which you have sent me a drawing of, is an highly ingenious invention, well constructed to move and support those who from long-continued disease have lost the use of their limbs; and admirably designed to give a good position to fractures, more especially in that most difficult case to manage well, the fracture of the thigh.

"Few, who are occupied in business as you are, give themselves time to think of such improvements; and I therefore consider this invention as highly creditable to your character and talents.

"I am yours, very truly,

*"To Samuel James, Esq.
Surgeon, Hoddesdon, Herts.*

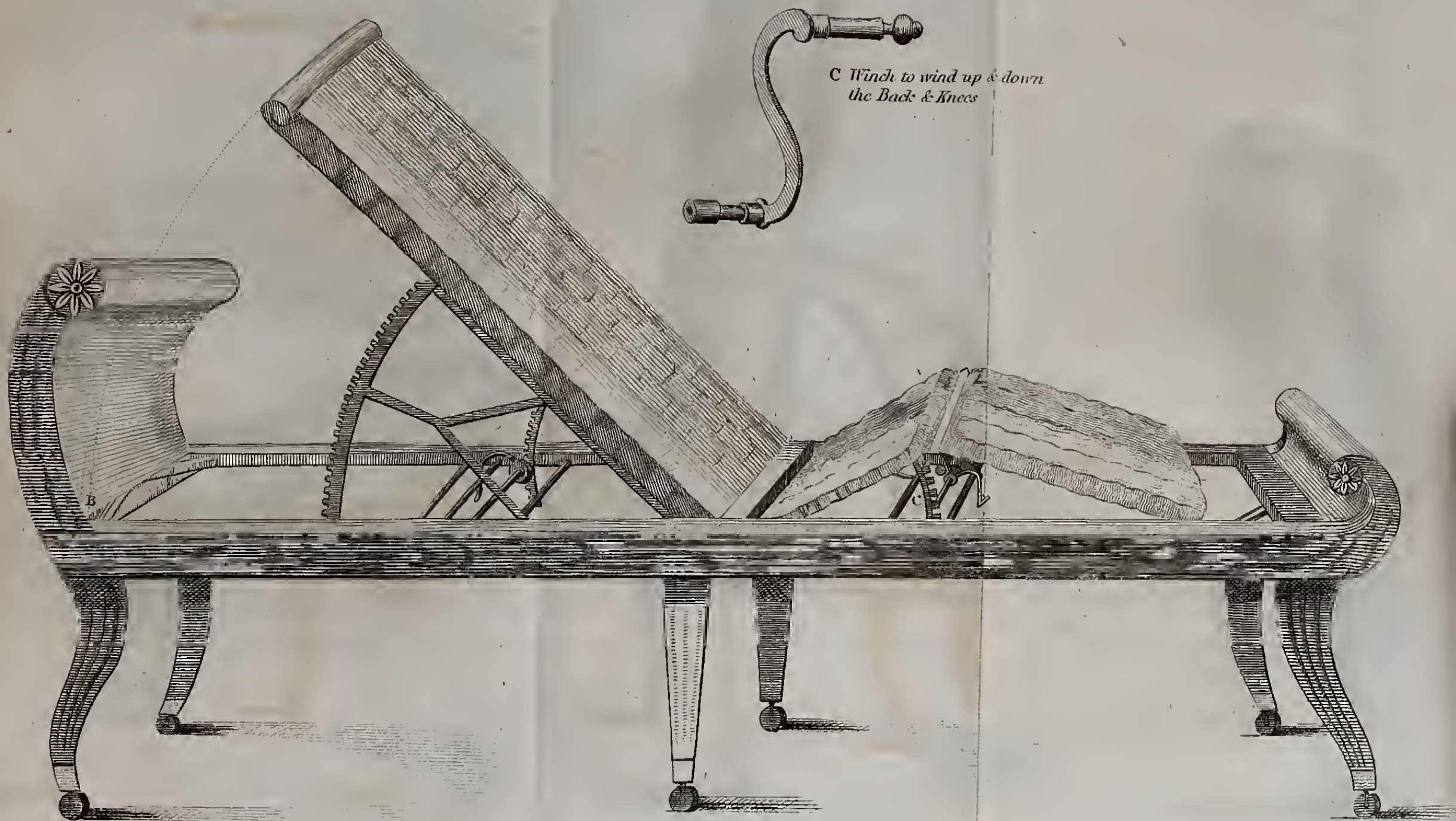
ASTLEY COOPER."

Annexed

Annexed is a *Plate*, with a Description of the PATENT SOFA, which will assist the Reader to judge of its capability of administering ease to the Sick and Infirm, and of facilitating the Cure of Fractured Limbs in particular.

In all cases of Palsy, Asthma, Consumption, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Gout, Fractures, and distressing Debility, or that excessive Languor which is sometimes caused by severe Fatigue, and at other times is the consequence of long continued Illness, great relief will be received from the use of this invaluable Machine.

The SOFAS may be had from *Twelve to Forty Guineas* each, fitted up to any requisite form, or with any degree of elegance; and are manufactured, under the authority of the Inventor and Patentee, by PRENTICE & SON, *Little Wild Street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields*, ~~and by ROBERT STARKS & SON, Ironing, Glazing, and General Furnishing Warehouse, 67 Fleet Street, London~~, where Specimens are exhibited for inspection and trial.—The Machinery is so constructed that it may be readily transferred to a common Bed.



C Winch to wind up & down
the Back & Knees

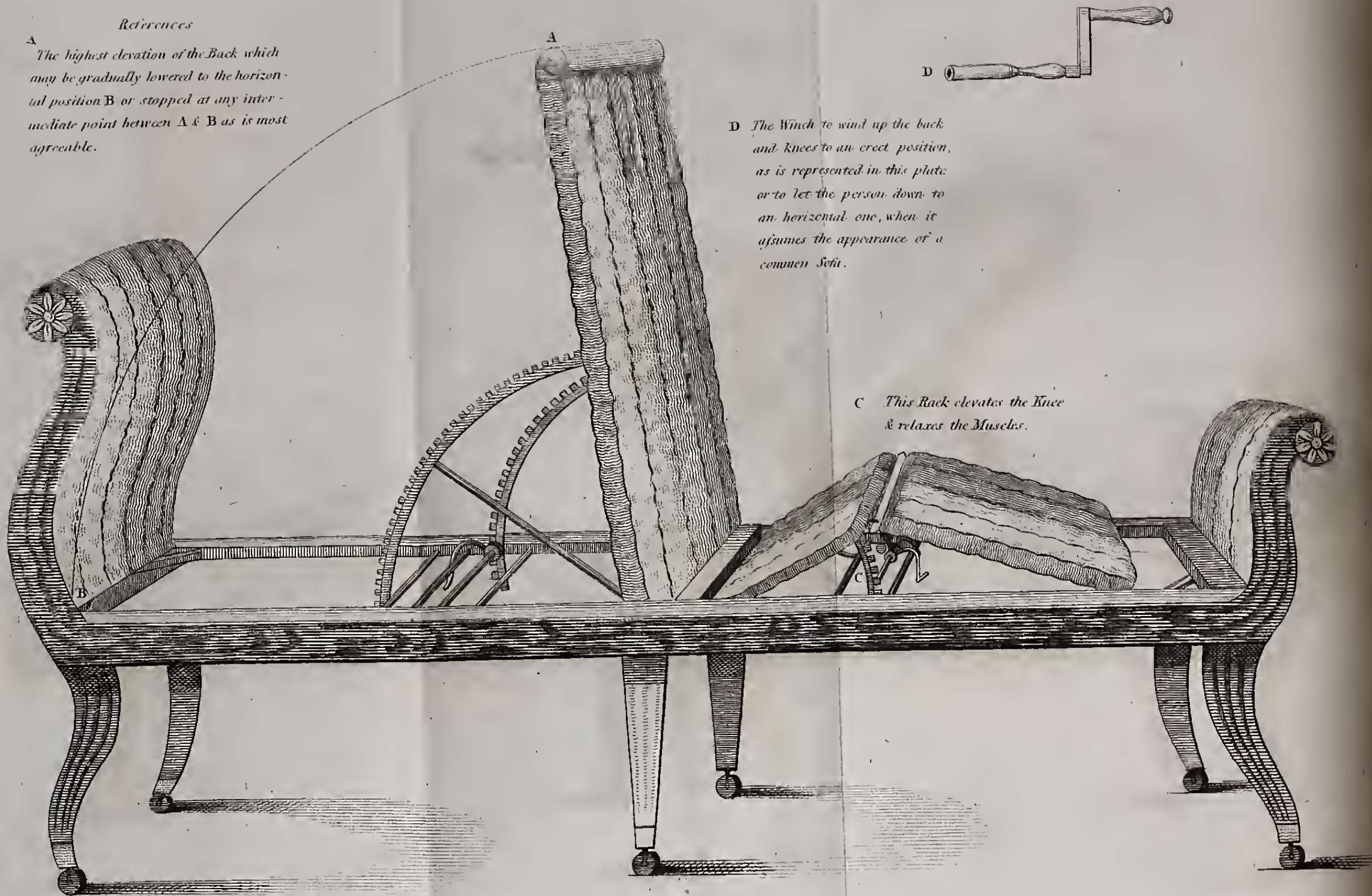
Sam. James's Patent Sofa or Machine for Invalids.

References

A The highest elevation of the Back which may be gradually lowered to the horizontal position B or stopped at any intermediate point between A & B as is most agreeable.

D The Winch to wind up the back and knees to an erect position, as is represented in this plate or to let the person down to an horizontal one, when it assumes the appearance of a common Sofa.

C This Rack elevates the Knee & relaxes the Muscles.



Sam. James's Patent Sofa or Machine for Invalids.

